



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released April 23, 2026, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Commercial Red Meat Production Up 2 Percent from Last Year

March 2025 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

March 2026 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.51 billion pounds in March, up 2 percent from the 4.42 billion pounds produced in March 2025.

Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.34 million head, down 6 percent from March 2025. The average live weight was up 45 pounds from the previous year, at 1,471 pounds.

Veal production totaled 1.7 million pounds, 16 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 8,300 head, down 23 percent from March 2025. The average live weight was up 32 pounds from last year, at 359 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.40 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.0 million head, up 6 percent from March 2025. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 292 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.1 million pounds, was down 6 percent from March 2025. Sheep slaughter totaled 197,200 head, 1 percent below last year. The average live weight was 121 pounds, down 6 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2026 commercial red meat production was 13.2 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2025. Accumulated beef production was down 6 percent from last year, veal was down 24 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals, and percentages based on unrounded data]

Type	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	March 2026 as % of		January to March		
				March 2025	February 2026	2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,153.1	1,932.9	2,096.0	97	108	6,544.0	6,147.4	94
Veal	2.1	1.6	1.7	84	107	6.6	5.0	76
Pork	2,254.0	2,199.4	2,401.4	107	109	6,956.4	7,050.4	101
Lamb and mutton	12.8	10.8	12.1	94	112	34.3	33.3	97
Total red meat	4,422.1	4,144.7	4,511.3	102	109	13,541.3	13,236.1	98

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals, and percentages based on unrounded data]

Type	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	March 2026 as % of		January to March		
				March 2025	February 2026	2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,119.2	1,902.8	2,063.3	97	108	6,444.1	6,052.4	94
Veal	1.9	1.5	1.6	85	108	6.2	4.7	75
Pork	2,245.1	2,191.8	2,393.0	107	109	6,929.6	7,026.0	101
Lamb and mutton	11.5	9.8	11.1	96	113	30.6	30.2	99
Total red meat	4,377.8	4,105.9	4,469.0	102	109	13,410.5	13,113.2	98

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals, and percentages based on unrounded data]

Species	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	March 2026 as % of 2025	January to March		
					2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,436.2	2,128.8	2,291.2	94	7,384.8	6,753.9	91
Other 1,000	47.5	41.5	44.9	95	140.1	131.2	94
Commercial 1,000	2,483.7	2,170.3	2,336.2	94	7,524.9	6,885.1	91
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,430	1,469	1,475	103	1,437	1,471	102
Other pounds	1,239	1,268	1,265	102	1,241	1,264	102
Commercial pounds	1,426	1,466	1,471	103	1,433	1,467	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10.3	7.7	7.9	77	33.9	23.4	69
Other 1,000	0.6	0.6	0.5	75	1.9	1.6	88
Commercial 1,000	10.9	8.2	8.3	77	35.7	25.1	70
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	322	338	355	110	313	341	109
Other pounds	416	396	422	102	398	404	102
Commercial pounds	327	342	359	110	318	345	109
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,367.9	10,049.2	10,970.2	106	31,906.2	32,126.7	101
Other 1,000	46.6	39.1	43.7	94	139.4	125.9	90
Commercial 1,000	10,414.5	10,088.3	11,013.9	106	32,045.7	32,252.6	101
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	291	292	292	101	291	293	101
Other pounds	264	266	265	100	263	265	101
Commercial pounds	291	292	292	101	291	293	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	176.2	157.7	178.5	101	475.2	487.6	103
Other 1,000	23.2	18.8	18.7	80	69.1	58.7	85
Commercial 1,000	199.4	176.5	197.2	99	544.3	546.3	100
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	129	123	122	95	127	122	96
Other pounds	111	102	104	94	106	103	97
Commercial pounds	127	121	121	95	124	120	97
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	46.2	41.8	47.0	102	131.6	130.3	99
Other 1,000	9.9	8.1	9.0	91	27.2	25.9	95
Commercial 1,000	56.0	49.9	56.1	100	158.9	156.2	98
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	66	64	64	97	65	64	99
Other pounds	81	86	79	98	82	83	101
Commercial pounds	68	68	66	97	68	67	99
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	5.7	3.9	4.8	85	17.1	13.4	78
Other 1,000	0.3	0.4	0.4	115	1.0	1.1	106
Commercial 1,000	6.0	4.4	5.2	86	18.1	14.5	80

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

[Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton. Totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

State	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	March 2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.1	1.0	1.1	92
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	0.1	(X)
Arizona	40.3	37.7	44.7	111
Arkansas	0.6	0.5	0.5	90
California	84.2	79.9	82.1	97
Colorado	188.1	166.3	105.7	56
Delaware-Maryland	2.0	1.9	1.9	96
Florida	5.3	4.6	4.5	85
Georgia	8.7	9.6	9.2	106
Hawaii	0.7	0.7	0.7	99
Idaho	46.1	42.4	46.6	101
Illinois	262.7	262.7	280.0	107
Indiana	163.1	158.7	177.4	109
Iowa	725.1	720.6	783.7	108
Kansas	454.4	434.3	478.9	105
Kentucky	52.6	52.6	54.0	103
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	0.4	113
Michigan	132.2	125.9	140.9	107
Minnesota	226.1	217.1	235.2	104
Mississippi	0.9	0.8	0.9	107
Missouri	163.9	177.7	182.7	112
Montana	2.2	1.6	2.1	95
Nebraska	626.0	549.7	634.9	101
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	90
New England ¹	2.6	2.1	2.3	87
New Jersey	4.4	4.3	4.9	112
New Mexico	0.4	0.4	0.4	112
New York	2.9	2.7	2.9	101
North Carolina	233.8	195.9	234.1	100
North Dakota	0.8	0.7	0.8	93
Ohio	25.3	23.7	26.4	105
Oklahoma	105.6	100.7	108.7	103
Oregon	2.3	2.1	2.3	100
Pennsylvania	128.7	119.6	132.5	103
South Carolina	16.3	11.4	11.2	69
South Dakota	118.3	111.2	123.6	105
Tennessee	23.0	24.0	27.8	121
Texas	361.0	296.3	335.9	93
Utah	46.1	44.8	50.2	109
Virginia	1.3	1.3	1.3	103
Washington	70.6	70.7	82.0	116
West Virginia	0.9	0.6	0.7	84
Wisconsin	90.2	85.1	94.1	104
Wyoming	0.8	0.8	0.8	101
United States	4,422.1	4,144.7	4,511.3	102

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: March 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.0	0.8	1,167	889	1,123	1,136
Alaska	0.1	0.1	55	83	1,108	1,225
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	0.8	0.6	879	718	1,094	1,112
California	86.3	84.9	124,272	119,496	1,451	1,418
Colorado	199.6	105.5	293,468	161,484	1,472	1,532
Delaware-Maryland	1.9	1.8	2,691	2,585	1,391	1,410
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.0	0.9	1,121	1,091	1,177	1,280
Idaho	57.2	54.4	77,509	76,412	1,363	1,414
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	8.4	10.3	10,297	13,009	1,241	1,276
Iowa	46.8	49.5	68,071	72,748	1,456	1,472
Kansas	491.0	495.2	697,975	733,825	1,422	1,482
Kentucky	6.3	6.9	7,415	8,367	1,187	1,217
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	461	471	1,048	1,113
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.6	0.7	677	751	1,071	1,036
Missouri	6.2	20.6	7,508	29,346	1,218	1,430
Montana	2.4	2.3	3,098	2,964	1,271	1,277
Nebraska	524.1	491.8	783,506	759,022	1,496	1,545
Nevada	(D)	0.1	(D)	107	(D)	1,140
New England ¹	2.7	2.3	3,412	2,886	1,271	1,262
New Jersey	4.7	5.0	5,457	5,827	1,172	1,168
New Mexico	0.5	0.6	544	594	1,063	1,060
New York	3.0	3.0	3,855	3,826	1,271	1,294
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	1.0	0.9	1,269	1,174	1,315	1,326
Ohio	6.5	6.5	8,738	8,619	1,341	1,336
Oklahoma	7.6	8.5	9,115	10,440	1,208	1,236
Oregon	1.2	1.0	1,517	1,250	1,230	1,270
Pennsylvania	90.6	88.1	123,223	119,264	1,365	1,358
South Carolina	22.6	15.9	31,983	21,735	1,424	1,379
South Dakota	33.6	(D)	52,086	(D)	1,555	(D)
Tennessee	3.5	3.1	3,516	3,100	1,028	1,040
Texas	431.2	379.0	586,500	542,997	1,363	1,437
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	1.5	1.5	1,600	1,691	1,045	1,141
Washington	79.3	87.3	114,112	130,669	1,442	1,501
West Virginia	1.1	0.8	1,261	1,006	1,195	1,306
Wisconsin	95.0	97.4	134,101	137,478	1,419	1,419
Wyoming	1.0	1.0	1,295	1,270	1,253	1,270
United States	2,483.7	2,336.2	3,534,855	3,429,821	1,426	1,471

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: March 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025 (1,000 head)	2026 (1,000 head)	2025 (1,000 pounds)	2026 (1,000 pounds)	2025 (pounds)	2026 (pounds)
Alabama	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	0.1	0.1	51	23	409	365
Georgia	0.1	(D)	46	(D)	498	(D)
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Illinois	0.2	0.2	92	78	424	400
Indiana	(D)	0.4	(D)	157	(D)	412
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Mississippi	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.1	0.1	21	24	233	274
New Jersey	1.4	1.3	533	509	386	386
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	0.1	(Y)	31	(X)	359	(X)
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	4.7	(D)	1,964	(D)	417	(D)
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	0.2	0.1	90	54	485	482
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	10.9	8.3	3,539	2,977	327	359

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: March 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.8	1.9	713	798	397	425
Alaska	0.1	0.1	23	14	270	280
Arizona	0.1	0.2	31	41	286	270
Arkansas	0.5	0.5	132	148	276	286
California	76.1	80.5	17,681	18,726	233	233
Colorado	2.7	1.9	400	303	149	163
Delaware-Maryland	1.7	1.6	478	473	286	303
Florida	4.0	3.3	560	423	139	128
Georgia	5.3	5.0	1,396	1,369	263	274
Hawaii	0.2	0.2	54	50	285	265
Idaho	11.7	14.2	3,000	3,674	256	258
Illinois	964.7	1,014.3	277,734	290,452	288	286
Indiana	736.0	784.5	210,108	226,192	286	288
Iowa	3,147.5	3,404.9	921,052	993,197	293	292
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.2	0.4	58	94	268	260
Michigan	425.3	442.1	124,282	130,650	292	296
Minnesota	961.3	994.7	270,459	282,698	281	284
Mississippi	3.5	3.5	640	678	184	194
Missouri	728.5	762.9	212,849	223,187	292	293
Montana	1.4	1.2	396	343	288	283
Nebraska	640.0	731.7	186,521	213,819	291	292
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	1.9	1.9	531	521	279	282
New Jersey	9.1	11.1	925	1,120	101	100
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	54	44	263	245
New York	1.7	1.8	432	438	253	248
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.3	0.3	81	80	280	303
Ohio	89.3	94.3	26,705	28,272	299	300
Oklahoma	451.9	445.9	132,128	134,091	292	301
Oregon	5.3	5.8	1,368	1,499	257	259
Pennsylvania	267.0	(D)	74,119	(D)	278	(D)
South Carolina	1.6	1.8	415	451	255	255
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	69.3	86.1	31,677	39,262	458	456
Texas	22.8	23.0	4,518	4,731	198	206
Utah	1.7	2.3	393	386	233	169
Virginia	1.1	1.1	304	352	289	315
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.5	0.5	162	113	307	230
Wisconsin	65.5	70.8	27,624	30,907	422	437
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	63	57	264	272
United States	10,414.5	11,013.9	3,025,541	3,217,526	291	292

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: March 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	82
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.7	(D)	76	(D)	108	(D)
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	9	17	106	114
California	21.9	20.7	3,474	3,059	159	148
Colorado	42.7	40.5	7,566	6,835	177	169
Delaware-Maryland	1.8	1.7	174	166	97	100
Florida	3.8	2.7	188	137	49	51
Georgia	3.5	3.9	199	253	57	66
Hawaii	0.2	0.1	25	10	137	129
Idaho	0.2	0.2	32	26	166	155
Illinois	6.3	6.3	543	504	87	80
Indiana	6.0	5.7	613	585	103	103
Iowa	0.2	0.1	19	13	117	104
Kansas	0.3	0.3	31	27	103	97
Kentucky	0.9	0.9	94	98	109	115
Louisiana	1.0	1.0	62	55	61	58
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.6	0.8	48	58	75	77
Mississippi	0.3	0.2	26	17	76	79
Missouri	2.0	1.9	151	138	76	74
Montana	0.3	0.3	36	44	134	134
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	6	10	116	107
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	5.0	4.0	499	394	99	99
New Jersey	15.5	18.1	1,266	1,630	81	90
New Mexico	0.5	0.7	72	96	145	147
New York	6.4	7.4	660	742	103	101
North Carolina	5.4	6.7	330	425	61	64
North Dakota	(Y)	0.1	(X)	8	(X)	135
Ohio	5.9	5.0	904	764	154	154
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.6	5.6	787	887	170	160
Pennsylvania	11.9	11.9	1,259	1,248	106	105
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.1	0.2	16	17	119	113
Tennessee	(D)	1.4	(D)	122	(D)	89
Texas	24.7	20.6	2,663	1,579	108	77
Utah	1.2	1.3	168	170	137	135
Virginia	1.4	0.9	101	66	73	74
Washington	0.9	0.8	119	114	133	136
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.7	0.9	75	74	104	85
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	12	13	139	148
United States	199.4	197.2	25,268	23,773	127	121

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection by Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	January to March		March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	January to March	
				2025	2026				2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)
Cattle										
Steers	1,140.0	1,034.2	1,124.1	3,590.6	3,296.1	46.8	48.6	49.1	48.6	48.8
Heifers	835.2	675.0	726.0	2,403.0	2,142.2	34.3	31.7	31.7	32.5	31.7
All cows	423.7	392.1	408.4	1,294.6	1,225.1	17.4	18.4	17.8	17.5	18.1
Dairy cows	217.9	237.3	239.2	682.8	723.3	8.9	11.1	10.4	9.2	10.7
Other cows	205.8	154.8	169.3	611.8	501.8	8.4	7.3	7.4	8.3	7.4
Bulls	37.2	27.4	32.8	96.5	90.6	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3
Total	2,436.2	2,128.8	2,291.2	7,384.8	6,753.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	10.3	7.7	7.9	33.9	23.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,093.4	9,802.6	10,692.7	31,074.8	31,336.6	97.4	97.5	97.5	97.4	97.5
Sows	252.4	228.5	256.3	764.7	729.6	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3
Boars	22.0	18.1	21.1	66.8	60.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	10,367.9	10,049.2	10,970.2	31,906.2	32,126.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	10.4	11.4	11.0	28.6	32.8	5.9	7.2	6.1	6.0	6.7
Lambs and yearlings	165.8	146.3	167.5	446.6	454.8	94.1	92.8	93.9	94.0	93.3
Total	176.2	157.7	178.5	475.2	487.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Federally Inspected Slaughter Average Dressed Weight by Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	January to March	
				2025	2026
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	872	896	902	874	898
Steers ¹	947	982	984	950	984
Heifers ¹	871	892	900	870	895
All cows ¹	665	669	677	668	668
Bulls ¹	920	928	927	906	927
Calves and vealers	189	199	209	185	201
Hogs	217	218	218	217	219
Barrows and gilts ²	215	216	216	215	217
Sows ²	299	297	300	296	299
Boars ²	223	227	227	221	226
Sheep	65	62	62	64	62
Mature sheep ³	66	63	64	66	64
Lambs and yearlings ³	65	62	62	64	62

¹ Included in cattle average dressed weight.

² Included in hog average dressed weight.

³ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: March 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves	
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total	
				All	Dairy	Other			
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1	2.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	
2	7.9	2.3	(D)	2.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	1.9	
3	89.6	36.4	(D)	43.9	35.4	8.5	(D)	(D)	
4	52.8	6.1	2.2	39.2	14.0	25.2	5.3	0.2	
5	245.5	116.2	30.0	(D)	60.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	
6	381.0	177.7	129.2	65.4	31.2	34.2	8.6	(D)	
7	1,048.2	572.9	416.3	(D)	(D)	41.9	(D)	(Y)	
8	188.6	96.2	76.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	
9	133.4	58.9	19.3	53.9	47.6	6.3	1.2	(D)	
10	142.2	56.6	45.5	38.7	32.3	6.4	1.4	(Y)	
United States	2,291.2	1,124.1	726.0	408.4	239.2	169.3	32.8	7.9	
	Hogs				Sheep				
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1	1.7	1.6	(Y)	(Y)	3.9	0.2	3.8		
2	12.9	12.8	(Y)	(Y)	24.9	3.2	21.8		
3	(D)	(D)	0.2	(D)	15.8	0.8	15.0		
4	(D)	(D)	86.1	(D)	14.2	1.1	13.1		
5	3,382.7	3,283.6	93.4	5.7	33.1	1.8	31.3		
6	464.2	464.1	0.1	0.1	17.0	0.9	16.0		
7	4,917.4	4,829.3	76.3	11.8	2.0	0.1	1.9		
8	(D)	(D)	0.1	(D)	41.6	(D)	(D)		
9	77.4	77.3	0.1	0.1	20.0	(D)	(D)		
10	21.8	21.8	(Y)	(Y)	5.9	0.1	5.8		
United States	10,970.2	10,692.7	256.3	21.1	178.5	11.0	167.5		

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8- Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to March 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	6.3	2.4	1.6	1.6	1.3	0.4	0.7	0.2
2	22.3	6.6	(D)	8.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	5.5
3	253.1	100.2	(D)	127.6	102.7	24.9	(D)	(D)
4	159.9	17.0	6.3	121.9	43.4	78.5	14.7	0.6
5	704.7	334.9	87.9	(D)	181.8	(D)	(D)	(D)
6	1,109.1	482.9	393.9	207.2	97.2	110.0	25.1	(D)
7	3,005.7	1,650.4	1,182.3	(D)	(D)	122.8	(D)	0.2
8	690.8	370.5	280.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	392.3	161.7	53.7	174.0	151.9	22.2	3.0	(D)
10	409.6	169.5	117.9	118.4	94.9	23.5	3.8	0.1
United States	6,753.9	3,296.1	2,142.2	1,225.1	723.3	501.8	90.6	23.4
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1	4.9	4.8	(Y)	(Y)	10.2	0.6	9.7	
2	34.0	33.9	0.1	(Y)	67.0	9.0	58.0	
3	(D)	(D)	0.5	(D)	41.6	2.5	39.1	
4	(D)	(D)	244.3	(D)	39.0	2.7	36.2	
5	9,937.1	9,653.5	266.8	16.8	88.7	4.7	84.0	
6	1,328.9	1,328.4	0.2	0.3	47.2	4.0	43.2	
7	14,468.8	14,218.0	217.2	33.6	5.4	0.3	5.0	
8	(D)	(D)	0.2	(D)	117.5	(D)	(D)	
9	230.7	230.4	0.1	0.1	56.0	(D)	(D)	
10	61.1	61.1	(Y)	(Y)	15.1	0.3	14.8	
United States	32,126.7	31,336.6	729.6	60.5	487.6	32.8	454.8	

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8- Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

Federally Inspected Slaughter Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	January to March	
				2025	2026
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1
Calves	94.2	93.0	94.3	94.8	93.5
Hogs	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6
Sheep	88.4	89.4	90.5	87.3	89.3

Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates

Average Live Weight: The weight of the whole animal, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

Commercial Production: Includes slaughter and meat production in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms. Based on packers' dressed weights.

Custom-Exempt Plants: Plants that do not sell meat but operate on a custom basis only are custom-exempt. The animals and meat are not inspected, but the facilities must meet health standards. These are considered NFI plants and head kill is included in NFI totals.

Dressed Weight: The weight of a chilled animal carcass. Beef with kidney knob in; veal with hide off; lamb and mutton with pluck out; pork with leaf fat and kidneys out, jowls on and head off.

Dressing Percent: Usually expressed as a percentage yield of chilled carcass in relation to the weight of the live animal on hoof. For example, a live hog that weighed 200 pounds on hoof and yielded a carcass weighing 140 pounds would have a dressing percentage of 70.

Federally Inspected (FI) Plants: Plants that transport meat interstate must employ federal inspectors to assure compliance with USDA standards. Any state whose commercial plants operate entirely under federal inspection may still have custom-exempt establishments for which NFI estimates are made.

Food and Meat Inspection: Includes examination, checking, or testing of a carcass and/or meat against established government standards and involves checking the facility for cleanliness, health of animals, or parts of animals and quality of the meat produced.

Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) Plants: Plants which sell and transport only intrastate. State inspectors assure compliance with individual state standards for these NFI plants. Mobile slaughtering units are excluded and are considered farm slaughter.

Number of Head: Includes post-mortem condemnations.

Plant, Slaughter: An establishment where animals are killed and butchered.

Red Meat: Red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter excluding condemnation and is comprised of beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. The FI red meat production is equal to the total carcass weight after slaughter. The NFI meat production formula is $(\text{NFI head kill}) \times (\text{live weight}) \times (\text{FI dressing percentage}) = \text{NFI red meat production}$.

Slaughter: Killing and butchering of animals primarily for food.

Slaughter, Farm: Animals slaughtered on farms primarily for home consumption. Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments, but includes mobile slaughtering on farms. These estimates appear only in the annual slaughter release.

Talmedge-Aiken (TA) Plants: Slaughter plants in which USDA is responsible for inspection. However, federal inspection is carried out by State employees. These plants are considered to be federally inspected.

Total Live Weight: The total weight of live animals, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

Wholesome Meat Act: Legislation that specifies that all meat produced for sale in the United States must be inspected. Meat that is transported interstate must be inspected in compliance with Federal (USDA) Standards.

Statistical Methodology

Data Sources: Primary data for the *Livestock Slaughter* publication are obtained from electronic reports completed by inspectors from the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA, which provide daily counts of animals slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants, in addition to total live and dressed weights. These counts are combined with data from State-administered Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) slaughter plants to derive total commercial slaughter estimates.

There are approximately 1,125 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and about 1,800 Non-Federally Inspected (State-inspected or custom-exempt) slaughter plants. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Terms and Definitions, page 14). To prevent duplication in reporting between FI and NFI plants and assure all FI plants are included, certificates prepared by FSIS identifying operating status are constantly monitored.

Revision Policy: Number of head slaughtered, live weights, and dressed weights are subject to revision the following month after the monthly release. Annual totals are published in the slaughter summary each April which includes any revisions made to current and previous year's published data. Revisions are generally the result of late reports received from slaughter plants and are usually less than one-half of one percent. No revisions will be made to the previous year's data after the publication of the annual summary in April.

Procedures and Reliability: The livestock slaughter data is obtained electronically on a daily basis and summarized approximately two weeks after the week of slaughter. A computer program compares each plant's data with the historical data for that plant. Data are checked for unusual values for head kill, patterns of kill, average weights, and dressing percent, based on each plant's past operating profile. In addition, the computer program provides a listing of missing reports for follow-up contact with FSIS. Average live and dressed weights and dressing percentages by State are compared with the previous weeks as an additional check. Fluctuations are frequently the result of plants permanently or temporarily closing and a shift in the species reported.

The FSIS District Veterinary Medical Specialists (DVMS) are contacted by e-mail or telephone for missing or potentially erroneous slaughter data. This assures that plants slaughtering a large number of head or several species are accounted for each week. Any corrections FSIS makes to the slaughter data are included in the summary.

Computer imputation may be necessary for incomplete reports. The imputation of live and dressed weights is based on the current week reported data of plants of similar size and location. Imputation for live and dressed weight data for cattle and hogs is less than 10 percent and 7 percent, respectively. The imputation for calves and sheep is more frequent and variable. If no data is received electronically or by other means, for plants slaughtering fewer than 50 total head weekly of only one species, data are imputed. The imputation of head for any plant is based on the historical data for that particular plant. The imputation of head slaughtered is rare but when necessary, the imputed head kill for missing plants usually is less than 1 percent of the United States head kill totals.

FI data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release. These weekly totals are published by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) in **Livestock, Meat, Wool Market News**, Weekly Summary, and statistics are also available on the NASS website. NFI data are summarized monthly only.

Livestock slaughter estimates are based on a census of operating plants and therefore, have no sampling error. However, they may be subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications and mistakes in reporting, recording and processing the data. These errors are minimized through rigid quality controls in the computer edit program and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

No data are published when an individual plant's data could be divulged. If not published, as indicated with a (D), these data are still included in United States and region totals. A review of the data is made annually to determine the publishable data.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products.....	(651) 440-7789
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production	(202) 720-3278
Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Trout.....	(202) 690-3237
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448
Shulonda Shaw – Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage.....	(202) 720-3240
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov.
- The national specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Economics, Statistics, and Market Information (ESMIS) – National Agricultural Library (NAL) website houses NASS’s and other agency archived reports at <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. To receive the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the website, create a new account and subscribe to the reports. You should whitelist notifications@esmis.nal.usda.gov in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@usda.gov.

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist.

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